

# THE WAVE



VOLUME 6, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2008

## *Fall Study Continues:*

### *"The Jesus I Never Knew"*

People inside and outside the Christian faith carry around caricatures of Jesus. There is "gentle Jesus, meek and mild," a Mister Rogers kind of Jesus. Yet no one would have crucified Mister Rogers! Among his contemporaries, Jesus somehow gained a reputation as "a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of outcasts." How does this fit in with our understanding of Jesus?

We seek to gain a clearer picture of Jesus as we continue the message series *The Jesus I Never Knew* begun September 28. The series will conclude on **Sunday, November 9** with a combined worship service at **10:30am**, followed by a meal at Ocean Palms.

## *Groundbreaking to be Celebrated on Sunday, November 9 at 1:00pm*



We will break ground for our new building at 76 S. Roscoe Blvd at **1:00pm** on **Sunday, November 9**. This coincides with Celebration Sunday, the culmination of our fall study series. Enjoy the combined 10:30am worship service, a delicious meal, and a continuation of the celebration as we move to 76 S. Roscoe to turn over the dirt.

## *Upcoming Messages*

*Fall series: "The Jesus I Never Knew"*

October 5 "Tempted by Shortcuts" (Luke 4:1-13)

October 12 "Blessed Are the Who?" (Matthew 5:1-12)

October 19 "Amazing Grace" (Luke 18:9-14)

October 26 "The Miracles" (Mark 1:40-45)

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### OUR MISSION:

- *to know Jesus*
- *to grow disciples*
- *to show love*
- *to go and make disciples of Jesus Christ*



PONTE VEDRA  
United Methodist  
Church

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us...

Isaiah

63:7

## Missions Corner

### B.E.A.M. (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry)

We'll be receiving groceries for B.E.A.M. on Sunday morning, **October 12**.

Recommended items include: canned meats: chili con carne, corned beef hash, beef stew, ham/spam, pork & beans, spaghetti sauce & pasta, canned vegetables & fruits: green beans, peas, carrots, corn, peaches, any common, fruit or vegetable a child might eat, instant rice, instant potatoes, tuna helper, macaroni & cheese, peanut butter & jelly, powdered milk, canned soups

Empty grocery bags will be available after both services in the back of the Cafetorium on October 5th. Please help this very deserving cause.

## Blood Drive



Our next opportunity to make a difference in our community is on **Sunday, October 19**, from 9:30am - 12:30pm. when the blood mobile comes to PVUMC. Each Sunday until the blood drive, Don Carson will be available after both services outside the cafetorium main doors to sign up donors. Anyone who is in good health, at least 17 years old and weighs at least 110 pounds may donate blood. There is no upper age limit to donate, as long as your doctor says it is okay. For your convenience, the blood mobile will be located in the bus lane just outside the entrance doors to the school. Please help. Remember, one donation can save up to three lives. Please bring a photo ID when you donate. Contact **Don Carson** at 280-2893 for more information or to make an appointment.

## Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes and the Good News of God's love. This program of Samaritan's Purse provides an opportunity for people of all ages to be involved in a simple, hands-on mission project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas - Jesus Christ. Our church will once again be sponsoring this mission by filling shoeboxes for the children. Collections will be received Sunday, **November 16**. For more information visit <http://www.samaritanspurse.org>.

## A Word from Wesley

For wherever true Christianity spreads it must cause diligence and frugality, which, in the natural course of things, must beget riches. And riches naturally beget pride, love of the world, and every temper that is destructive of Christianity.

– Jackson XIII, 217.



## *Spotlight on Volunteers*

### *Ode to Libby & Art Denning*

A sweeter couple you've never met than those about whom I am penning.

It's a wonderful, loving, caring duet who are Arthur and Libby Denning.

They have moved from our town, but not from our heart, and I know that I speak for us all

When I say we will miss our dear Libby and Art, but continue to visit and call.

They've meant so much to so many of us, in a number of wonderful ways,

And I know they don't like when you make a big fuss, but they sure deserve lots of our praise.

They've done Meals on Wheels, delivered for B.E.A.M., and been hospital volunteers,

And they never say "no", or so it would seem, to serve others throughout the years.

Now they met in Rock Hill on a Friday night, back in 1940 or so,

Art saw her walk by and was filled with delight and quickly he let Libby know.

Three weeks to the day they were husband and wife and their married life had just begun

They show us all how to be married for life, and to never stop having fun.

A shining example of Christ-centered lives, they are truly mates of the soul,

They've taught us all how to be husbands and wives, two halves of the very same whole.

We're all better people because of these two, so to Libby and Art I can say,

We love you, we miss you. Go dust off the mat – we're coming to visit today!

Libby & Art Denning, 96436 Marsh Hen Rd., Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

(904) 491-0993

## Fun Opportunity



Are there any writers among us, with time on an every-other-month basis to make a phone call then write an article? This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know other Ponte Vedra UMC members better by writing a Wave newsletter article about their volunteer duties! This is a sure way to get your 'work' published! Please call **Sue Stanley** for more information at 285-2946.



## Thank You!

**Dod and Colleen Schroter** send out a big thank you to **Collette and Vance LeClair, Robin and Bill Walters**, and **John McEvoy** for volunteering to be a part of the Sunday morning coffee service.



## "Building on Faith" Campaign Follow-up

We have been granted our site permit by St Johns County. Though approved by the Building Department, the building permit has been held up due to a zoning concern regarding the 44' height of the main roof. The architect and construction engineer learned that the coastal overlay district in which our property is located has a 35' height restriction. We applied for a zoning variance to allow for the full height of the building but subsequently withdrew the application upon being told by the zoning department that we were exempt from this limit. The appropriate substitute form was filed. We hope to have the clearance sheet signed off by all county departments shortly.

The contract to build should soon be ready to sign.

Our construction loan application came before the board of the Florida United Methodist Foundation (our lender of choice) on September 27. It is approved! We anticipate closing on the loan in 30 - 45 days.

We are saddened that Jon & Sherri Hatfield are coming off the Followup Director Team of *Building on Faith*. Jon has taken a position in Birmingham, Alabama; he, Sherri and son Jack soon will be relocating there. Thank you for your work on the capital campaign; we'll miss you, Hatfields! We welcome to the team Dave & Patricia Branham who so ably served us in this same capacity in our earlier capital campaign.

Thank you all for your support. Please continue to pray for your church as together we are *Building on Faith*.

– Your Followup Director Team: Jim Wynn, Dave & Patricia Branham



*“Building on Faith” Campaign Followup*  
**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN STATUS**

**Building on Faith Recap**

Campaign goal	\$ 1.3 million
Pledged to date	\$1,541,934
Pledges received to date	\$ 407,638
Non-pledges received to date	\$ 18,341
General budget receipts	\$ 29,166
Interest income	\$ 2,376
Total received to date	\$ 457,521

**General Fund Recap August 2008**

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 41,129
Expenses + Mortgage	\$ 42,517
Net income/(deficit)	(\$1,388)

**Building Fund Recap As of September 30, 2008**

Income	\$ 10,029
Expenditures	\$ 0
Balance	\$ 332,138

**The church office is open Tuesday — Friday from 10am—2pm.**

*September 2008 Giving & Attendance*

Date	Contemp. Attendance	Traditional Attendance	General Fund Giving	Capital Fund Giving	Other Giving
9/07	105	98	\$11,967	\$ 2,051	\$ 322
9/14	86	86	\$ 8,887	\$ 2,343	\$ 767
9/21	82	84	\$ 5,295	\$ 3,555	\$ 249
9/28	86	77	\$ 10,155	\$ 2,080	\$ 656

**Designated Totals**

Building Fund	\$ 332,138
Enhancement Fund	\$ 966
Memorials	\$ 5,678

Needed Weekly 2008  
 \$ 10,100



On A Musical Note  
The Children's and Youth  
Creative Arts Ministry

### **C.I.A. Children In Action**

Kindergarten through 5th Grade  
Wednesdays 3:30-5:00pm

### **YCAM**

Grades 6-12  
Wednesdays 6:00-8:00pm

### **Praise Choir**

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

### **Traditional Choir**

Thursdays 7:00-8:00pm

## ***C.I.A. (Children In Action)***

**Kingdom Kids Volunteers Needed!** Join our Kingdom Kids volunteer team and get to know the young people in our church. Please call **Lynn Straughan** at 806-4508 if you would like to be a part of this exciting team.



**Fall Party October 18:** Join us for games, fun and good family fun on Saturday, October 18 from 10:30am - noon at our 76 S. Roscoe ministry house. For more information call **Lynn Straughan** at 806-4508.



## **Round of Applause:**

For **Ruth Murta** and her volunteers for providing lunch for our mission trip presentation

For the **Murta family**, the **Gelb family**, and **Cooper Agent** for cooking a FANTASTIC dinner for our back to school bash!

For **Steve Bohner** and **Allison Evans** for chaperoning our Rock the Universe trip

## **Upcoming Events:**

**Student Leadership Summit:** October 3-5 in Orlando. This is a chance for some of our leadership students to attend training and group building time sponsored by our conference!

**Destination unknown** (Middle School only): Saturday, October 18. NOTICE THE DATE CHANGE!!!! We will meet at the church at 10:00am and return by 2:00pm. Pick up a list of items to bring at youth group on Sunday night!

**Destination unknown** (High School only): Monday, October 27: Celebrate your day off school with this mystery event! Pick up a list of items to bring at youth group on Sunday night!

**District Youth Retreat!** November 7-9. Do you like Epworth? Do you love to meet new people? Do you want to spend time with other youth group members getting to know one another (and yourselves) better? Then sign up for the District Retreat in November! Cost is \$90/person, and your \$45 deposit is due by October 19!

**Confirmation Class Scheduled to begin October 5!** Any student who wishes to be part of this year's confirmation class should see Kelly on Sundays, or reach her by phone (407)694-2167

## Beaches Churches'

### Celebration of Life Prayer Service October 16



A Celebration of Life Prayer Service honoring breast cancer survivors, families and friends will be held **Thursday, October 16** at **7:00pm** at Christ Episcopal Church. Together we will celebrate the lives of survivors and remember those we have loved and lost. An offering to benefit the Donna Hicken Foundation will be received.

## New Member Orientation

Thinking about joining Ponte Vedra UMC? Our next new member orientation is set for **Sunday, November 2**, from **3:00 to 5:00pm** at the ministry house, 76 S. Roscoe Blvd. The group will be led by Pastor Jeff. Whether you're thinking about membership or would simply like to learn more about our church, you are encouraged to participate.

## Church Conference

Each year our annual church conference is held in conjunction with those of other new church starts in Northeast Florida. But not this fall. On **Sunday, October 5** at **2:30pm** we will gather together with the churches of St. Augustine. The meeting will be held at Shores UMC, 724 Shores Blvd in St. Augustine. All are welcome to attend.



***United Methodist Women***

Our final meeting for the year will be held **Saturday, November 1 at 10:00am** at Jane Ellis' home, 117 Shelby's Cove Court, Ponte Vedra Beach. Please call 273-0094 to RSVP by October 25 or to receive directions. Please bring a covered dish for this "Christmas in November" meeting. In lieu of any gift exchange there will be a special Church World Service love offering for "Giving Hope" from Ponte Vedra UMC/ UMW. Please bring your World Thank Offering and your completed pledge commitment at this time. Check with Vera Combs (285-2854) if you need to check on the status of your pledge.

On September 20, Church World Service Development Associate, Dolly Dyer, spoke to several combined UMW groups in this area. Her message and the accompanying video presentation spoke volumes depicting the work of "Giving Hope" ministry in East Africa. A whole generation of people have perished there because of terrorism and affliction as we have never experienced. There are millions of orphans living in squalid slums and unbelievable conditions. They have no parents, lost ancestry, lost identity, lack of education and the means to learn trades. The 12 - 25 year old group is the next generation in critical jeopardy. With the help of CWS, opportunities are made available to educate, teach and develop skills in farming, carpentry and small business projects through loan grants (normally from \$25 to \$75 seed money) to help them become self-reliant.

Please support Church World Service through your prayers and your monetary gifts. Their programs empower countless numbers to become self sufficient, break the cycle of poverty and be able to prepare future generations to become self reliant. Ponte Vedra UMC/UMW will forward all donations, or your checks may be mailed directly to Church World Services, 4920 Niagara Road, Suite 406, College Park, Maryland, 20740.



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE**

**I'm ready to empower children through "Giving Hope!"**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Here is my gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to empower children through "Giving Hope."**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Contact me for assistance in having my congregation support "Giving Hope."**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Contact me to request a proposal to the Foundation to support "Giving Hope."**

*Thank You!*

## *76 S. Roscoe Blvd: Everything Must Go...*

From time to time people have mentioned that they'd like to come out and remove some of the plants at 76 S Roscoe. Now is the time. Come on out, shovel in hand, and take what you want, first come, first served. (Do leave the massive oaks; we're saving those. ☺) We'll welcome gifts to the Building Fund for those so inclined. Please replace your divot. (If you don't know what a divot is, ask a golfer.)

The Trustees are including yard ornaments, gates, fences, play boats, swing sets, dog houses, flagstone, etc in this offer but please don't take the cross out front. You set the price for whatever treasure you find. Please leave the property in a condition safe for others.

Keep in mind that we're still using the ministry house, storage sheds and pole barn for a little while longer. Please do not disturb.

## *The No-Excuse Sunday (Author Unknown)*

1. Cots will be placed in the vestibule for those who say, "Sunday is my only day for sleeping in."
2. Eye drops will be available for those whose eyes are tired from watching TV too late on Saturday night.
3. We will have steel helmets for those who believe the roof will cave in if they show up for church services.
4. Blankets will be furnished for those who complain that the church is too cold. Fans will be on hand for those who say it is too hot.
5. We will have hearing aids for those who say, "The pastor talks too softly." There will cotton for those who say he is too loud.
6. Scorecards will be available for those who wish to count the hypocrites present.
7. Relatives will be in attendance for those who like to go visiting on Sunday.
8. TV dinners will be available for those who claim they can't go to church and cook dinner too.
9. One section of the church will have trees and grass for those who see God in nature, especially on the golf course.
10. The sanctuary will be decorated with both Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies for those who have never seen the church without them.

## *A Note From Pastor Jeff:*

I enjoy following the news from Wall Street. Wall Street recently intersected with Main Street as news of the credit crisis, failing investment banks and imperiled insurers dominated the front pages of newspapers. As I watched my retirement accounts diminish in value it was good to remember that my wealth doesn't appear on bank or brokerage statements and its value isn't listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Each of those measures of earthly wealth goes to zero upon my death; they'll be worth absolutely nothing to me then. This is why Jesus preached,

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

– Matthew 6:19-21

I think I'll be a little more aggressive in building my wealth. It is possible to convert dollars to a longer lasting currency. Every dollar given to God, every dollar given to meet the needs of the poor (be they physically or spiritually impoverished) is a bit more treasure laid up in heaven.

Where is your wealth?

– Pastor Jeff



### **PONTE VEDRA** *United Methodist Church*

76 S. Roscoe Blvd.  
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

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#### CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Jeff Bennett
Youth Minister	Kelly Minter
Children's Coordinator	Lynn Straughan
Nursery Coordinator	Kim Knopp
Admin. Assistant	Susan Bowler
Accountant	Jim Larsen
Music Contemporary	Scott Tinsley
Music Traditional	Diane Wright

StaffEmail:

[firstname.lastname@pv-umc.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@pv-umc.org)